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L. Sprule
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Election



PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Alfred O. Bonati)
Philip J. Ware)
S.N.: 08/108,036) Examiner: Bennett, C.
Filed: 08/17/93) Art Unit: 3307
For: Cervical Discectomy Instruments)
and Method)

)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

**ELECTION AND RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT
FOR RESTRICTION**

In Paper No. 2, mailed May 27, 1994, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire June 27, 1994, the Examiner required restriction of the following inventions under 35 USC §121:

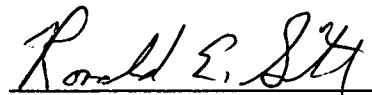
- I. Claim 1, drawn to a push knob for a guide wire;
- II. Claims 2-6, drawn to a dilator tube, and the associated method of using said dilator tube;
- III. Claim 7, drawn to a ligament cutter;
- IV. Claim 8, drawn to a cervical osteotome;
- V. Claims 9 and 11, drawn to a cervical curette;
- VI. Claim 10, drawn to a sheer-type nucleus extractor;
- VII. Claims 12-14 drawn to a method for debulking a cervical tissue;
- VIII. Claim 15, drawn to a method of removing a protruding tissue from abutting engagement with a nerve.

It was the Examiner's position that Groups I-VIII are distinct and independent inventions, one from another. This requirement for restriction of applicants' invention is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

In accordance with such requirement, however, applicants elect Group II for the purpose of prosecution.

Very respectfully,



Ronald E. Smith
Mason & Associates P.A.
18167 U.S. 19 North, Suite 150
Clearwater, Florida 34624-6566
(813) 538-3800
Reg. No.: 28,761

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